

NEWS OF THE SPORTING WORLD

ILLINI IS IN FIGHT FOR BIG 9 TITLE

Baseball Game at Madison Tonight Will Decide Wisconsin's Chances for the Pennant.

BADGER TANKERS GOING BAD

Swimming Team Loses Valuable Members—Only 20 Left to Call for Baseball Team.

Madison, Wis., Feb. 19.—Today marks the culmination of the basketball season for Wisconsin, and the Badgers hope to beat Illinois here in the fight for the conference championship. Wisconsin, however, faces certain defeat at Urbana in the swimming meet, and when the baseball candidates turned out for spring practice it was a sorry showing.

If the Badgers win a basketball they will be considered to have more than an even chance of overtaking Northwestern and gaining the conference title. If they lose they will be out of the race for first position.

The Illinois squad arrived from Urbana yesterday afternoon and took short workout in the Badger gym last night.

The persistent hard luck which has followed the Wisconsin swimming team this year will make it impossible for the Badgers to win their first dual meet of the season, according to Coach Harry Hindman.

Hindman said: "We started the season without a veteran; we proceeded to build a team and thought we were going to succeed, but the results of the semester examinations have been disastrous to our chances. We lost four of our most promising men, and yesterday Otto Endres, strong plunger, was operated on and will be out for the remainder of the season. We don't expect more than a few points."

20 Candidates for Nine.

Less than twenty candidates for the 1916 Wisconsin baseball team reported for the first practice in the gymnasium annex. Coach Bill Jue-neau took complete charge of the workout in the absence of "Slim" Lewis. Few of the veterans were on hand. Captain Boulevard has issued a call for more candidates.

Mitchell Sprains Ankle.

Milwaukee, Wis., Feb. 19.—Richie Mitchell, Milwaukee lightweight, sprained an ankle yesterday while training for his fight here Feb. 25 with Frankie Callahan of New York and will be unable to fight for a few weeks. Joe Welling, Milburn Saylor or Johnny O'Leary may be secured to take Mitchell's place against Callahan.

Marino Gets Big Score.

Minneapolis, Feb. 19.—In the special doubles event of the I. B. A. late yesterday James Dolan of Minneapolis and "Hank" Marino of Chicago, bowled 1,209. Most of the other scores were low. A few single and double shifts remained to be played tonight.

Aerial Navigation.

Researches into the principles of aerial navigation date back to the 14th century.

FAMOUS ATHLETE IS NOT GOING TO QUIT



John Paul Jones.

John Paul Jones, the former Cornell runner who used to shatter world's records regularly, will not retire from athletics as had been reported. Jones, who resides in Evanston, Ill., has accepted membership in the Illinois Athletic club.

BOHEMIA MUST BE A GREAT PLACE WHEN YOU CONSIDER WHAT BOHEMIANS CAN GET AWAY WITH—By Goldberg



CHICAGO SKI MAN SETS NEW RECORD

Breaks World's Mark in Wonderful Jump in Tournament at Steamboat Springs, Col.

Steamboat Springs, Col., Feb. 19.—With a leap of 192 feet 9 inches, Rag-na Omtvedt of Norge Ski club of Chicago broke the world's record for ski jumping here yesterday in the mid-winter ski carnival. The best previous jump on record was made by Ambel Omtvedt of Christiania, Norway, who covered 173 feet. Previous to the foreigner's performance Omtvedt held the world's record of 169 feet 6 inches, made on Ironwood hill, Cary, Ill. Omtvedt made three trials. His first and second jumps were of almost championship calibre, but it was in the last effort, when he concentrated all of his skill and strength, that he made his wonderful record.

The carnival closed yesterday with the championship games. Omtvedt took first place in the professional event with 366 points. Carl Howelson of Steamboat Springs was second, with 306 points; Lars Haugen of Chipewa Falls, Wis., third, with 288 points, and Anders Hauger of the Milwaukee Ski club fourth, with 273 points. The award on points was made on distance and on form shown by the contestants.

In the jumping contests men were here from all the large eastern ski clubs and also from Norway and Sweden.

LOUIS COMISKEY'S AUTO IS RECOVERED

Valparaiso, Ind., Feb. 19.—Fred Behrens of Kouts thought he had a bargain when he bought a new seven-passenger automobile about ten days ago. He paid a stranger \$1,000 for the machine. Yesterday a Chicago detective arrived and identified the car as the one stolen recently from Louis Comiskey, son of the president of the White Sox. The sleuth took it back to its owner. Some ten days ago or more a stranger pulled into Kouts pretending that he was an agent and offered his "demonstrator" for sale at a bargain. An examination of the machine showed that the factory number had been chiseled, making it impossible to trace the original purchaser.

News for the Hunters.

Bloomington, Ill., Feb. 19.—Instructions were received yesterday by P. J. Flanagan, deputy game warden for central Illinois, that federal authorities had decided not to enforce the migratory game bird law, conflicting with the Illinois law, and that hunters may shoot water fowl this spring, same as in effect prior to adoption of federal statute.

Ames Is for Baseball.

Ames, Iowa, Feb. 19.—Baseball will continue to be a major sport at Iowa State college here as the result of action taken by the faculty yesterday and announced today.

Faculties of the schools composing the Missouri Valley conference have been asked for their views on inter-collegiate baseball. The vote by the Iowa State faculty was unanimous in favor of retaining baseball.

Dual Track Meet at South Bend.

South Bend, Ind., Feb. 19.—Followers of the track here expect to witness some great sprinting matches today when Bergman and Hardy of Notre Dame clash with Hohman, Gildner and Brandt of Illinois in their indoor dual meet here.

GEORGE DANS AND HIS STABLE OF SCRAPPERS



Eddie Evers

George Dans, fight promoter and manager, has assembled a strong stable of boxers, including two Rock Island boys, Eddie Evers and Earl Henderson, the third being Andy Dans, his brother. Henderson fights at 142 pounds and is a welterweight. Evers is a bantam, fighting at 116 pounds, and Andy Dans is a lightweight, battling at 130 pounds.

Earl Henderson, the heaviest boxer in the stable, has been matched to meet Frankie Whitney, the Cedar Rapids carpenter, who recently disposed of Ad Wolgast at Memphis. George Dans, himself a former welterweight fighter, will personally train Henderson for the bout, which is to be staged before a private club at Iowa City, March 5. The boys will go 10 rounds. Since his comeback Earl won several fights handily and is in better condition at the present time than he has been in four years.

Evers, one of the most popular men in the squared circle in the tri-cities, has been matched to fight Joe Burger of Chicago, March 10, at Iowa City. Evers had signed to meet Burger last Wednesday, but the Chicago bantam was taken ill and could not fill the date. Stub Goodwin of Quincy was substituted and Evers forced him to quit in the second round. Evers has been going great lately and Dans is making efforts to card him in Milwaukee and Indianapolis in the near future. Andy Dans has several bouts in view in Milwaukee before Tom Andrews' club. Of the three boxers, Andy has been the most active.

George Dans is training his boys at Rock Island Industrial hall, and he has set aside tomorrow for the fight fans to witness the three battlers in their training stunts. The boys will spar at 3 o'clock in the afternoon. George is looking for a permanent location here, and says he will fit out a model gymnasium for his stable.

DEMON HITTER ONCE WEAK WITH THE BAT

What slugger do you think hit .237 one year. You wouldn't guess, given three guesses. Ty Cobb. Yet, the Georgia slugger had one bad year out, playing with Anniston, in the Alabama-Tennessee league, he batted .370. The next year found Ty with the Augusta team in the South Atlantic league, and this was the only year that he ever hit under .300. Ty was in such poor form that he only hit .237. Then he began to work his head off. The following year Cobb pulled up to .326, and he has been going like a gray



Earl Henderson.



George Dans

streak ever since. He played two years with Augusta, and then Detroit took him.

\$165,000 WORTH OF BASEBALL PLAYERS

New York, Feb. 19.—Colonel Rupert estimates that he and Captain Huston have spent approximately \$165,000 for baseball players since they purchased the Yankees. "When we bought the club we made up our minds that we were going to have a real team," said the colonel yesterday. "We have been willing to purchase any player we thought would be of assistance in building up the team."



Andy Dans.

17 BUSH HURLERS ON YANKEES' LIST

Joe Kelley of the New York Americans Lines Up String of Unknowns for Manager Donovan.

Chicago, Feb. 19.—Seventeen young pitchers, gathered by the eagle-eyed scout, Joe Kelley, from all the bush leagues between Maine and Texas, have been ordered to mobilize at Macon, Ga., on Feb. 22 by Manager Bill Donovan. The Yankees never had so many pitchers, and, if numbers count for anything, the New York American league club should cut quite a figure in the pennant chase this season.

It is a mystery where Kelley discovered them all. No one knew that there were so many recruit pitchers good enough to be considered candidates for the major leagues.

The new pitchers include such strangers as Tommy Blodgett, Neal Brady, Slim Love, Cliff Markle, Ford Meadows, George Morgridge, Willie Piercy, Sam Ross, Urban Shocker, Dan Tipple, Dazzy Vance, Allan Russell, Gilman Day, George Finn and also the well known citizens, Cy Pieh, Ray Keating and the new Federal league prize, Nick Cullop.

Slim Love is the most interesting of these new pitchers, because he stands about 6 feet 6 inches in height. Ray Keating's work will be watched with interest. A year ago he had to give up pitching because of an injury to his hip. It is said that he has entirely recovered and will be able to pitch as well as ever this season.

Meridith to Race.

New York, Feb. 19.—A 1,000 yard special race to be run here today at the meet of the Ozanam Athletic association will bring together Ted Meridith of the University of Pennsylvania, Joseph Higgins of Holy Cross, Homer Baker of New York, and Dave Caldwell of Boston.

A number of champions are entered for a meet under the direction of the Bronx Church House.

J. H. Taylor, the national champion, and Edward Ames are entered in the standing high jump.

Flyweights to Battle.

St. Louis, Feb. 19.—Jimmy Pappas, St. Louis, flyweight champion, has been matched with Roy Moore of St. Paul for a ten-round bout at St. Paul, March 1.

LIFE FED LEAGUE SPARED ONE WEEK

Outlaws Scheduled to Sing Swan Song Today But Gilmore Postpones Important Meet.

Chicago, Feb. 19.—The life of the Federal league has been spared one week.

Owners and backers of the defunct organization, scheduled to sing their swan song in Chicago today, decided to prolong the life of the victim one week. President Gilmore made known the change in an announcement from New York yesterday, giving as his reason Phil Ball's presence in Gotham, where he is attending the American league confab.

The reason for this delayed Fed meeting is a puzzle. One report launched yesterday was to the effect that the moguls were gathering to split a pool raised last fall to run the outlaw circuit another season. No one would verify this rumor. President Weeghmann merely stating the magnates were going to be present "to officially transact all unfinished business."

Outside of this the fire went out in the stove league, most of the boys resting up after a hard night at the Majestic club banquet, tendered Charles Weeghmann Thursday night. It was one of the most cheerful gatherings of the season, Weeghmann in his speech blaming a game of golf at Exmoor for his presence in organized baseball.

There was plenty of baseball enthusiasm on tap, which was a pleasant experience for the new Cub owner, who predicted that 1916 would be a banner year for baseball all along the line.

Plans already are under way for the big Cub opening, friends of the ex-Whale boss planning to make this the biggest opening in the history of the National league in Chicago.

SPORT GOSSIP

New York, Feb. 19.—Although a form of football was played by both the Greeks and Romans under the title of Feninda and later Spheromakia it has been recently demonstrated that the North American Indians invented and played a game similar to the football of early and middle age Europe. In a recent article upon the subject, Parke Davis, the statistician and historian of the modern game, writes as follows:

"The first American played football in a well specialized game, of which he also was the inventor. Like Lacrosse, the Indian played his game of football upon the flat sands. The ball was made of leather, sewn with a thong and filled with moss. The goals were a mile and more apart. The players ordinarily were braves of the same tribe, but upon special occasions the game would be waged between selected players of different tribes, one tribe being arrayed against another.

"In these tribal contests the players came to the sands arrayed in war bonnets, war paint and full savage regalia. As the time drew near for the game to begin, bows, quivers, shields and bonnets were discarded, and the Indian, lithe and athletic, stood forth eager and alert. Before commencing play the rival players shook hands and rubbed noses in formal token of the friendliness of the fierce encounter.

"Our genial reporters of three centuries ago tell us that sometimes several days were required to obtain a goal, in which event the contending teams would mark the spot where the ball lay at sundown and resume the game at that point the following day. And there was fair sportsmanship in a few minutes.

KEWANEE BEATEN AGAIN BY LOCALS

Tube City Tossers Defeated by Score of 21 to 16 in Fast Tilt on Home Floor.

AL TABER'S WORK IS A FEATURE

Islander Captain Makes 13 of Points of Team—Ackley Plays Usual Strong Game.

(Special to The Argus.)

Kewanee, Ill., Feb. 19.—Rock Island triumphed for the second time this season over Kewanee in a hard fought basketball game here last night, the final count being 21 to 16. The anticipated rough tactics on the part of Kewanee did not materialize and the contest was one of the cleanest ever staged on the local floor. Al Taber proved the big star for the visitors, netting 13 points.

The contest started rather slowly, neither side displaying much life, but at the start of the second half Kewanee took a decided spurt and it looked for a time as though the Tube City boys would win. The spurt lasted only a few minutes, however, and as quickly as Kewanee started lagging the Islanders took advantage of the lull and went into the lead again.

Ackley played his usual strong game at guard and proved a stumbling block to Kewanee's team work. Barker also loomed up strong at center, and Helmbek and E. Barker shared equally in the glory of the victory. The lineup: Rock Island—E. Taber, 17; Al Taber, 17; Barker, 17; Ackley, 13; Helmbek, 13.

Kewanee—Yordy, 17; O'Connor, 17; Jamnik, 17; Pesch, 13; Bradbury, 13. Referee—Thornley, Monmouth, 13.

LOCAL SCRAP STILL BEFORE COMMISSION

(By Associated Press.)

New York, Feb. 19.—Garry Herrmann, president of the national baseball commission, announced that there will be no action on the Rock Island territorial dispute for three or four days. The national commission did not meet formally. Action on any matters under consideration will be decided by mail vote.

This means that Rock Island baseball fans will have to sit tight a while longer on the local baseball situation. It had been confidently expected that the national commission would get together in New York yesterday and take action on the territory controversy over Rock Island between the Central association and the Three-Eye league.

Burning Glasses.

The use of the burning lens to generate fires was known to the ancient Greeks.

their game, for William Strachey, comparing the tactics of the Indians to the tactics of the Englishman, and clearly referring to tripping and hacking, says: "They never strike up one another's heels, as we do, not counting that praiseworthy to purchase a goal by such an advantage." They played for stakes, did these Indians, so high that William Wood is afraid to tell the size. On this subject he says: "It would exceed the belief of many to relate the worth of one goal, wherefore it shall be nameless."

The erroneous idea of the distance between the home plate and first base or between any of the other "bases" and that which separates third base from the home plate seems to prevail not alone among the fans, who generally accept the measurement of 90 feet but also by some ground keepers. This error caused Secretary Heydler, of the National league, a short time ago to issue an order calling for the reconstruction, on account of faulty measurement, of some of the league's playing diamonds. Under the rules laid down for a diamond's construction the various distances are as follows:

Home plate to first base 87 feet 3 inches; first to second base 88 feet 14 inches; second to third base 88 feet 14 inches and from third base to the home plate 87 feet 9 inches. The home plate, or rather the front of it, should be exactly 57 feet 1 inch from the pitcher's box as the official measurement from the intersection lines which meet at the back of the plate should be 60 feet 6 inches. As the plate measures 17 inches through from back to front it will be seen that the forward point of it should be located exactly 59 feet and 1 inch from the pitcher's box.

Chinese athletes competing in American intercollegiate contests are likely to be features of the coming indoor and outdoor season. Michigan, Case school, Cleveland and Brown all have Chinese trying for places on the track and field squads. Several have made excellent records in far eastern meets.

The Metropolitan association of the A. A. U. is considering the feasibility of purchasing an indoor running track consisting of rubber mats. The sections are cut in such form as to permit the laying out of a lap course of varying length. Such a surface would materially improve the time of all foot races both sprints and distance runs. It can be laid and removed in a few minutes.